

Colleague Flu Shot Clinic Schedule

Print the schedule and get vaccinated.

Rapid Referral Lines Enhance Access

Get same-day appointments at surgery practices.

LVPG Practice of the Month - Photos

Meet Lehigh Valley Physicians Practice colleagues.

New Orthopedics & Sports Medicine Providers

Total joint, spine and foot surgeons join LVPG.

Help Program Earn ANCC Accreditation

Current and former nurse residents: Complete the survey.

Fall Family Fun Days at Dorney Park

Get tickets for Oct. 5, 6 and 7.

20% Off LVHN Sports Tek Jackets

Save on men's and women's styles.

Attend LVHN's 50+ Wellness Expo

Event is Sept. 15, 9 a.m.-noon, at LVH-Cedar Crest.

Register for Urology Symposium

Discount registration expires Sept. 15.

Give Blood at LVH-Muhlenberg

Drive is set for Sept. 26.

Indoor Auto Racing Presale Tickets

Event will be at PPL Center Jan. 4 and 5.

Attend the
Colleague
College Fair

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Terry's Take:
Our Goals,
Your Goals

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LVHN news

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Cancer

Shape Up for Fall

Get the Colleague Flu Shot Clinic Schedule

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

It's nearly fall, and the cold and flu season is upon us. The best way to avoid contracting the flu and transmitting it to our patients and others is by getting vaccinated in early fall. People who work in health care have a special obligation to be vaccinated because unvaccinated health care workers who spread the flu can cause serious harm to vulnerable patients. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend all persons six months and older receive a yearly influenza vaccine. This year, we hope to achieve a 98-percent vaccination rate across all LVHN facilities.

LVHN makes getting vaccinated easy. This year, colleague flu shot clinics will begin Monday, Oct. 1, and continue throughout the flu season. Click below to get the schedule for your location. Then print the schedule, post it in your department, get vaccinated and remind others to do the same.



- [Lehigh Valley schedule](#)
- [Hazleton schedule](#)
- [Schuylkill schedule](#)
- [Pocono schedule](#)

What you need to know

- Look for an email containing more information about getting vaccinated.
- Prior to attending a flu shot clinic, complete the electronic consent form, which is part of your first-quarter education bundle (except for colleagues at LVH–Pocono).
- You can also access the electronic consent form and additional information about influenza vaccination on the intranet home page by clicking “Influenza Information” under “Colleague Resources.”

Four types of vaccines provided this year

- Fluzone Quadrivalent protects you from four different influenza strains: two type A viruses and two type B viruses (available at the clinics and employee health services).

- FluMist contains a live virus and is delivered via nasal spray. It protects against four strains and is appropriate for people 49 years old or younger (available at the clinics and employee health services).
- Fluzone High-Dose is recommended for people 65 years of age or older (available at the clinics and employee health services).
- FluBlok is an egg-free vaccine for people who have a severe allergy to eggs (available at employee health services).

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Get Same-day Appointments and Rapid Referrals at LVPG General, Bariatric and Trauma Surgery Practices

BY [MARCIAANN ALBERT](#) · SEPTEMBER 10, 2018



Need a direct office contact to get your patient a same-day appointment at [LVPG General, Bariatric and Trauma Surgery](#) or [LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–Muhlenberg](#)? Michelle Laky and her amazing practice teams have established new “rapid referral” lines with the sole purpose of getting patients in to see a physician the same day.

If you are a referring or potentially referring a patient to these practices, call the respective phone number for a same-day appointment:

- LVPG General, Bariatric and Trauma Surgery: 610-402-3296
Practice location: 1240 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., suite 308
- LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–Muhlenberg: 484-884-1700
Practice location: 2649 Schoenersville Road, suite 202

Note: These “rapid referral” lines are for office staff only. Referral questions can be emailed to michelle.laky@lvhn.org, Practice Director.

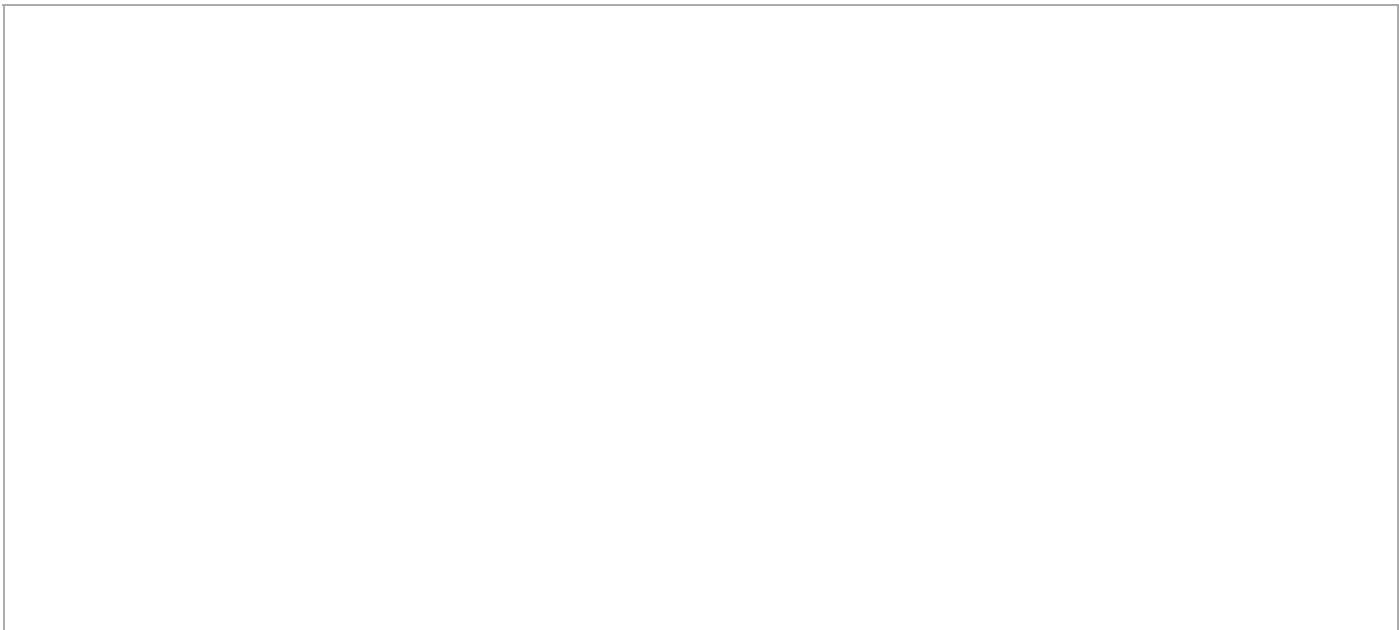
LVPG Practice of the Month: Lehigh Valley Physicians Practice – PHOTOS

BY [MARCIANN ALBERT](#) · SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

At the start of fiscal year 2018 (FY18), Lehigh Valley Physicians Practice (LVPP) had only two green quality indicators: lipid control and avoidance of antibiotic treatment in adults with bronchitis. Practice Director Kimberly Wittner, BSN, knew little changes would make a big difference in turning red quality indicators green. So, she and her staff outlined a proactive quality improvement plan. Wittner collaborated with colleagues to integrate educational interventions and worked to address areas of opportunity such as:

- Weekly resident education to review quality panels and dashboards
- Addressing the “Not Met Report” by having the front desk staff help with patient outreach and schedule follow-up visits
- Teaming up with Breast Health Services at LVH–17th Street to secure open appointments for patients to complete breast cancer screenings and mammograms
- Promoting patient education by giving patients at the time of discharge a pink ribbon asking them to pledge to get a mammogram if it was applicable/due and encourage other women age 40 and older to get one
- Embracing a team-based approach to improving Press Ganey scores, including residents Shraddha Patel and David Ochs

LVPP 1



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Wittner also helped develop a six-question questionnaire to be given to patients at the end of their outpatient visit. Survey results were collected weekly and shared with providers for real-time feedback. This information helped team members identify strategies to improve provider communication, listening and patient engagement. “We all take pride in providing the upmost quality care to our patients,” Wittner says.

By steadily working together on common quality goals and initiatives, LVPP achieved the following:

- 3 percent improvement in provider ratings
- 4 percent increase in provider communication
- Improved Medicare wellness visits from 21 to 58 percent at the end of FY18
- Finished FY18 with six green quality indicators (Medicare wellness visits, pneumococcal, breast cancer screening, diabetic eye exam, antibiotic treatment and lipid control)

“We provide reassurance to our patients letting them know we are here for them despite all the challenges they face such as low literacy, financial hardships, lack of transportation and housing difficulties,” says LVPP colleague Maria Dutan, Trained Medical Interpreter.

“Our patients know they can count on us,” says Dianne Chomko, RN. “We don’t judge them and we treat them like family.”

“We are passionate about the patient population we serve at LVH–17th Street,” says Medical Assistant Magdalena Montag. This sentiment of compassion and community support is reflective in LVPP’s daily

efforts and patient interactions. It is poignantly summed up by Medical Assistant Jennifer Delgado who says, “We do this work because we care.”

Learn more about [Lehigh Valley Physicians Practice](#) on LVHN.org.

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New Providers Join LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine

BY [SIDNEY STEVENS](#) · SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine is pleased to welcome three new physicians:

- Total joint surgeon Jonathan Brown, DO
- Orthopedic spine surgeon Jeffrey McConnell, MD
- Foot surgeon Alan Stuto, DPM



Brown recently completed his orthopedic surgery residency at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Philadelphia and a fellowship in adult joint reconstructive surgery at New England Baptist Hospital/Tufts University School of Medicine. His focus is on treating disorders involving major joints of the body, including hip and knee. Brown sees patients at LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine's Muhlenberg and Palmer Township locations.



McConnell is a highly regarded spinal surgeon with years of experience helping patients recover from spine injuries and disorders so they can return quickly to their favorite activities. Formerly with OAA Orthopaedic Specialists in Allentown, he is board certified in orthopedic surgery and fellowship trained in spinal surgery, and is known for his expertise in total cervical and lumbar disc replacements using Mobi-C, Prestige LP, ProDisc and Activ-L technologies. McConnell is also a member of LVHN's Advanced Spine Center, a collaboration between orthopedics, neurosurgery, physiatry, chiropractic medicine, pain management, rehabilitation and imaging. He sees patients at LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine—1250 Cedar Crest.



Stuto recently completed his podiatric surgical residency at University Hospital in Newark, NJ, and a

fellowship in reconstructive foot and ankle surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He specializes in diabetic foot and ankle surgery with an emphasis on treating traumatic and post-traumatic injuries, soft tissue coverage of foot and ankle lesions, and diabetic Charcot reconstruction surgery to correct foot and ankle deformities resulting from peripheral neuropathy. Stuto is board certified in podiatric medicine. He sees patients at LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine's Muhlenberg and Palmer Township locations.

LVPG Orthopedics and Sports Medicine provides a full spectrum of orthopedic care for children through adults and has nine practice locations in Lehigh, Northampton, Berks, Bucks, Luzerne, Schuylkill and Carbon counties.

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Help Our Nurse Residency Program Earn ANCC Accreditation

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

LVHN's Nurse Residency Program is seeking accreditation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). If we're successful, our nurse residency program will be one of the first in the nation to be accredited by the ANCC. To succeed, we need your help.

As part of the application process, residents who participated in our program are asked to complete a voluntary and confidential online survey about their perceptions of the residency. Nurse residents who were in our program from July 2016 to March 2018 received an email from ANCC with directions to take the survey. Here's how you can help:



- If you received the survey, please take it before Sept. 30.
- If you know a current or former nurse resident, encourage them to check their email and take the survey as soon as possible.

We need 51 percent of our residents to take the survey before the ANCC will review the evidence we submitted for accreditation. So, it's vitally important that our residents participate.

Survey responses will help elaborate on our program's performance in practice as it relates to accreditation criteria. Responses will not be shared with LVHN's program personnel. Only staff members from ANCC's accreditation program have access to the full response report.

Thank you for doing your part to help our program earn accreditation.

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Get Tickets to Fall Family Fun Days at Dorney Park

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

Join us for LVHN Fall Family Fun Days at Dorney Park Oct. 5, 6 and 7. Tickets are only \$28.50 plus taxes and fees. Tickets are valid for 2018 one-day admission on the date selected. Tickets are available online only. To purchase tickets, click [here](#).

You'll enjoy time at the park's fall events, including:

Haunt: 7 p.m.- park close (Oct. 5, 6 and 7)

Great Pumpkin Fest: 12-5 p.m. (Oct. 6 and 7)

Visit dorneypark.com for park hours.



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Get 20% Off LVHN Sport Tek Jackets

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

Now you can shop for LVHN-branded apparel and merchandise at a discounted price in our gift shops and online. Each month, a new item will be featured.

Discounted apparel in September is the Men's and Ladies LVHN Sport Tek Jackets:

- Sport Tek Ladies Tech Fleece Full-Zip Hooded Jacket: Originally \$48.95, now \$38.95
- Sport Tek Sport Wick Fleece Full-Zip Hooded Jacket: Originally \$40.95, now \$32.95



There isn't a promo code; it's already reduced in stores and online when you click the "September Special" image.

To shop, visit the [LVHN Shop](#).

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Attend LVHN's 50+ Wellness Expo

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

Attend the eighth annual 50 + Wellness Expo on Saturday, Sept. 15, from 9 a.m. until noon in LVH-Cedar Crest's Kasych Family Pavilion.

The expo will promote health and preventing falls, as well as providing:

- Free flu shots
- Health screenings
- Health information
- Raffles and giveaways
- Healthy snacks

Funds for the expo are provided by the Drs. Joseph and Rose Mattioli Endowment Fund for Continuing Excellence in Trauma Care.

To register, call 888-402-LVHN.



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Regional Urology Symposium at Skytop Lodge Oct. 19-20

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 13, 2018

The 4th Annual Urology Symposium will be held Oct. 19-20 at Skytop Lodge, 1 Skytop Lodge Road in Skytop, Pa.

New this year is a Nursing Breakout Sessions.

Urology topics for Friday, Oct. 19, include:

- Men's Health/Erectile Dysfunction/Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH), 8:15-10:15 a.m.
- Endourology, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- Nursing Breakout, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- Female Urology/Reconstruction, 1-3 p.m.
- Oncology, 3:15-5:15 p.m.
- Networking Reception, 6-7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 20, topics include:

- Oncology, 8-10 a.m.
- Nursing Breakout, 8-10 a.m.
- Endourology, 10:30 a.m.-noon

For the full schedule, click [here](#).

Registration fees for the event are as follows:

Physicians: \$250; on site is \$275

Nurses/Advanced Practice Clinicians: \$100; on site is \$125

Residents/Medical Students: \$50; on site is \$50

Registration ends Oct. 15. To register, complete the online registration and payment [here](#). Anyone with questions should call the Department of Education at 610-402-2277.



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Give Blood at LVH–Hazleton and LVH–Muhlenberg

BY [JANE DANISH](#) · SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

There is no substitute for human blood. For patients with cancer, accident victims, premature babies and others in need, your generosity contributes to saving lives right here in our community. This means your blood can save the lives of family members, friends, neighbors, colleagues and others in the area that may need your help.

Please consider donating at one of these upcoming blood drives.

LVH–Hazleton

Sept. 13, 12-6 p.m. (The time was extended for colleague convenience.)

Business and Education Center, back parking lot

Register by calling Lisa Marie Halecky, Community Relations, at 570-501-4249.

LVH–Muhlenberg

Sept. 26, 7 a.m.-3 p.m. (The time was extended to make it more convenient for night-shift colleagues to donate in the morning following their shift.)

ECC rooms B, C and D

[Reserve your appointment online.](#)

Walk-ins also are welcome at these drives. Donors receive a \$5 meal ticket to use in the hospital cafeteria. A personal identification card is required at time of donation.



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LVHN Exclusive: Indoor Auto Racing Presale Tickets

BY [EMILY SHIFFER](#) · SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

Enjoy a weekend of racing at the PPL Center on Saturday, Jan. 4, 2019, and Sunday, Jan. 5, 2019. The races will feature TQ Midgets, Champ Karts and Slingshots.

The ticket presale begins on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 10 a.m. and ends at 11:59 p.m.

To purchase tickets, click [here](#) and enter promo code: PTLVHN.



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